

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A pharmaceutical composition for preventing or treating metabolic bone disease comprising a hot water extract of climacteric symptoms comprising the Sophorae Fructus extract as an effective ingredient.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein said hot water extract of Sophorae Fructus extract is prepared by the steps of :

(a) adding water to the *Sophorae Fructus* powder, wherein the amount of water is 3 to 20 times as much as the weight of *Sophorae Fructus* powder; and

(b) hydrothermal extracting the composition of step (a) for 1 to 6 hours to obtain the hot water extract of Sophorae Fructus extract.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein said hot water extract of Sophorae Fructus extract is prepared by the steps of :

(a) adding water to the *Sophorae Fructus* powder, wherein the amount of water is 3 to 20 times as much as the weight of *Sophorae Fructus* powder;

(b) hydrothermal extracting the composition of step (a) for 1 to 6 hours to obtain the hot water extract of Sophorae Fructus extract; and

(c) adding amylase or pectinase to the hot water extract of Sophorae Fructus ~~extract~~ of the step (b) by 0.01~1%(v/v), and reacting for 4~24 hours.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the metabolic bone disease ~~climacteric symptom~~ is selected from a group consisting of ~~metabolic bone diseases such as~~ osteoporosis, lumbago, rheumatoid arthritis, degenerative arthritis, rickets, osteomalacia and Paget's disease of bone, ~~cardiovascular diseases such as angina pectoris and arteriosclerosis, and degenerative neurological diseases such as Parkinson's disease.~~

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A food composition for preventing or improving metabolic bone disease ~~climacteric symptoms~~ comprising a hot water extract of the Sophorae Fructus ~~extract of claim 1~~ as an effective ingredient.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The food composition of claim 5, wherein the metabolic bone disease ~~climacteric symptom~~ is selected from the group consisting of ~~metabolic bone diseases such as~~ osteoporosis, lumbago, rheumatoid arthritis, degenerative arthritis, rickets, osteomalacia and Paget's disease of bone, ~~cardiovascular diseases such as angina pectoris and arteriosclerosis, and degenerative neurological diseases such as Parkinson's disease.~~

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A method of preventing or treating metabolic bone disease ~~climacteric symptoms~~, which comprises administering a

pharmaceutical composition comprising a hot water extract of the Sophorae Fructus ~~extract~~ to a subject.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 7, wherein the metabolic bone disease ~~characteristic symptom~~ is selected from ~~[[a]]~~ the group consisting of ~~metabolic bone diseases such as~~ osteoporosis, lumbago, rheumatoid arthritis, degenerative arthritis, rickets, osteomalacia and Paget's disease of bone, ~~cardiovascular diseases such as angina pectoris and arteriosclerosis, and degenerative neurological diseases such as Parkinson's disease.~~

Claim 9 (Cancelled).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 9, wherein the metabolic bone disease is prevented or treated by stimulating the osteoblast proliferation, the secretion of a growth factor involved in bone reformation, and the generation of nitric oxide in the osteoblast by the administration of the pharmaceutical composition comprising the hot water extract of Sophorae Fructus ~~extract~~ to a subject.

Claim 11 (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein the growth factor involved in bone reformation is IGF-1 or TGF- $\beta$ .

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 7 ~~[[9]]~~, wherein the metabolic bone disease is prevented or treated by inhibiting the secretion of bone-absorptive cytokines or the osteoclast differentiation by the administration of the

pharmaceutical composition comprising the hot water extract of Sophorae Fructus  
~~extract~~ to a subject.

Claim 13 (Original): The method of claim 12, wherein the bone-absorptive  
cytokine is IL-1 beta or IL-6.

Claim 14 (Canceled).

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): Use of a hot water extract of the Sophorae  
*Fructus* ~~extract~~ for the preparation of a medicament for preventing or treating  
metabolic bone disease climacteric symptoms.